

2010 Play Ball! Minnesota Coaches Conference

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

7:15 – 8:00	Registration & Breakfast
8:00 – 8:15	Welcome & Introduction
8:25 – 9:10	Breakout Session #1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using Assistants, Volunteers and Parents ó John Wilkens & Dave Hieb• It's Not Just About Winning: How to Develop Skills ó Matt Parrington• Pitching Essentials: How to Develop Pitchers ó Erik Lovdahl• Prepare for Success: Plan and Run an Effective Practice ó Jason Verdugo
9:20 – 10:05	Breakout Session #2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual Infield Skills & Drills ó Gene Larkin• Instructing Hitting Skills & Drills ó Brian Raabe• Team Defense Philosophy & Drills ó Scott Leius• Baserunning Skills & Drills ó Al Newman
10:20 – 11:20	General Session #1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respect the Game ó Frank White & Al Newman
11:30 – 12:00	Target Field Tours
12:00 – 12:55	Lunch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Q&A with Tim Laudner
1:00 – 1:55	General Session #2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coaching Essentials ó Bill Peterson & Tim Laudner
2:00 – 2:55	General Session #3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protecting the Young Thrower's Arm ó Dr. Dan Buss
3:00	Conference Concludes



Saturday, April 24, 2010
8:00 a.m. ó 3:00 p.m.

TARGET FIELD

1 Twins Way
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612-659-3400

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CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Dave Hieb is in his 14th year as head coach at Northwestern College. He is a two-time Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) Coach of the Year Award winner. Under his leadership, the 2007 Eagles set the school record for wins in a season with 31 and the four-year stretch from 2003 to 2007 marks the most successful four-year stint in program history, recording 20 or more wins in four of the seasons. Hieb is first all-time in school history for career coaching wins.

John Wilkens is an assistant baseball coach at Northwestern College and has been involved with baseball for over 50 years. Since 1970, Wilkens has coached at the high school, American Legion and collegiate levels. He was a coach on the 1987 USA Olympic Festival, gold medal winning, North Team. Wilkens is the secretary-treasurer for the Minnesota State High School Baseball Coaches Association and serves as the clinic director for the annual MSHSBCA state coaching clinic.

Matt Parrington is in his 11th year as head coach at Macalester College. He holds the record for all-time wins at Macalester and has led the Scots to their only MIAC playoff appearance. Parrington has coached 11 different first-team all-conference players and the school's first-ever All-American. He is an alumnus of Minnesota State University ó Mankato where he was a member of three North Central Conference championship teams while playing under ABCA Hall of Fame Head Coach Dean Bowyer.

Erik Lovdahl has over 15 years of experience coaching at the high school and collegiate levels. He is a former professional pitcher and currently serves as a Twins batting practice pitcher. He is the owner of Lovdahl Pitching Academy and is the MYAS Gopher State Pitching Camp Director, Minnesota Twins Training Camp Director and Minnesota Twins Training Academy Pitching Director. He has trained countless athletes throughout the Upper Midwest.

Jason Verdugo is in his 9th year as head coach at Hamline University; he is also the pitching coach for the St. Paul Saints. During his tenure, Hamline has twice set records for season wins and has qualified for the MIAC playoffs three out of the last four years. Verdugo's players have received numerous individual awards including All-MIAC and All-America honors. He is an alumnus of Arizona State University and was drafted by the Anaheim Angels and San Francisco Giants respectively; reaching the AAA level with the Giants.

Gene Larkin was drafted in 1984 out of Columbia University and played seven years with the Twins. He was a member of both the 087 and 091 World Series Champion teams; driving in the game winning run in the 091 series. While at Columbia, Larkin surpassed all of New York Yankee legend Lou Gehrig's hitting records. Currently, he is a youth baseball coach and co-owner of Nevers-Larkin Baseball Training and Big League Baseball Camp.

Brian Raabe played for four professional organizations including the Twins, Colorado Rockies, Seattle Mariners and Seibu Lions in Japan. He was a six-time Minor League All Star and 1996 AAA batting champion. He is an alumnus of the University of Minnesota where he received All Big-Ten and All America honors. He is the head coach at Forest Lake High School and Twins Training Academy Hitting Director.

Scott Leius was a 13th round selection by the Minnesota Twins in the 1986 amateur draft and played nine Major League seasons. He played all the infield positions, but spent the majority of his games at third base where he finished Gold Glove runner-up in 1994. Leius was a member of the 1991 Twins World Series championship team and is currently a youth baseball coach and co-owner of Big League Baseball Camp.

Al Newman played eight seasons in the Major Leagues, five with the Minnesota Twins. Newman was primarily an infielder and played the majority of his games at second base and shortstop; posting a career .984 fielding percentage at second base in 424 games. Newman was a member of both the 1987 and 1991 Twins World Series teams. He is currently an American Legion coach in Apple Valley.

Frank White is the founder of Respect Sports and has devoted his career to promoting the benefits of sports. He is a member of the Minnesota High School League Officials and Sportsmanship Advisory Committees. White is the Minnesota Twins Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities Coordinator. He founded Respect Sports with a mission to raise awareness about violence in sports and to provide a model for leaders, administrators, parents and participants to create a safer, healthier and more positive direction in youth sports.

Tim Laudner is a Minnesota native and was a 3rd round draft pick for the Minnesota Twins in the 1979 amateur draft. Laudner, a catcher, played nine seasons in the Major Leagues, all with the Twins. He was a member of the 1987 Twins World Series team and was an American League All Star in 1988. He is currently a co-owner of Big League Baseball Camp.

Bill Peterson has been a major figure in Saint Paul baseball for many years. He began his career in 1961 and has guided teams to 23 championships at the city, state and national levels. His most famous pupils include Hall of Famers Dave Winfield and Paul Molitor. Peterson has also been involved in umpiring, spending over 20 years in national umpire circles. He has been recognized by membership in the Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame, the Mancini Baseball Hall of Fame, the ASA National Softball Hall of Fame and the St. Paul Central High School Sports Hall of Fame.

Dr. Daniel Buss is a board certified orthopaedic surgeon specializing in disorders of the shoulder and elbow. He is the founder of Sports and Orthopaedic Specialists. Since 1990, he has served as team physician for the Minnesota Twins. He is also an orthopaedic consultant to the University of Minnesota varsity athletes, Macalester College and Northshore Gymnastics.